

# Responsible Leadership

February 26, 2008

## Investing for Tomorrow



3 1761 11556411 4



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada

Canada

To succeed in the future, Canada must invest in its best and brightest people so they can excel, building a more competitive economy and a better home for their families, their communities and those who follow in their footsteps. Budget 2008 invests in all Canadians to make our country a world leader.

### Investing in People With:

- \$350 million for a new, consolidated Canada Student Grant Program reaching 245,000 college and undergraduate students in the fall of 2009, and rising to \$430 million by 2012–13.
- \$123 million over four years to streamline and modernize the Canada Student Loans Program.
- Enhanced flexibility for Registered Education Savings Plans, increasing the time limits they may remain open to 35 years from 25 years.
- \$25 million over two years to establish a new scholarship award for top Canadian and international doctoral students, dedicated to the memory of former Governor General Georges Vanier.
- \$3 million over two years for Canadian recipients of Canada Graduate Scholarships who wish to study abroad.
- \$21 million over two years to establish up to 20 Canada Global Excellence Research Chairs to strengthen the ability of Canadian institutions to attract and retain top science leaders.
- \$20 million to the Gairdner Foundation to enhance the Canada Gairdner International Awards for exceptional achievement in health research.
- \$22 million over the next two years, growing to \$37 million per year, towards a modern competitive immigration system with faster processing of permanent resident applications and shorter wait times.
- \$60 million per year to fully exempt the first \$3,500 of earned income from the Guaranteed Income Supplement calculation to support seniors.

*Budget 2008 includes funding to expand online services for students—and enable them to manage their student loan account online—from application through to repayment.*

### Investing in Knowledge With:

- \$80 million per year to Canada's three university research granting councils in support of industrial innovation, health priorities, and social and economic development in the North.
- \$140 million for Genome Canada to ensure Canada remains at the forefront of genomics research.
- \$250 million over five years to support the Automotive Innovation Fund for strategic, large-scale research and development projects by the automotive sector in developing innovative, greener and more fuel-efficient vehicles.
- Enhanced Export Development Canada guarantee programs to support the automotive and manufacturing sectors.

### Investing in Communities and Traditional Industries With:

- \$90 million to extend the Targeted Initiative for Older Workers to 2012.
- A further \$1 billion in support for Canada's manufacturing sector with an additional three years of accelerated capital cost allowance treatment for new investment in machinery and equipment.
- \$72 million over two years for farm programs and to improve access to \$3.3 billion in cash advances.
- \$22 million over two years to streamline and improve the environmental regulation of aquaculture.

*This new assistance is above and beyond the \$1-billion Community Development Trust announced in January of this year.*

### Investing in Infrastructure by:

- Making the Gas Tax Fund, which will be \$2 billion in 2009–10, a permanent measure, allowing municipalities to better plan and finance their long-term infrastructure needs.
- Setting aside up to \$500 million to support capital investments in public transit.
- Announcing the establishment of PPP Canada Inc. to support public-private partnerships.

### Supporting People in Need With:

- \$110 million to the Mental Health Commission of Canada to support innovative demonstration projects to develop best practices to help Canadians facing mental-health and homelessness challenges.
- \$282 million over this and the next two years to expand the Veterans Independence Program to support the survivors of veterans.



## Investing in the Health and Safety of Canadians With:

- \$113 million over two years to support Canada's Food and Consumer Safety Action Plan.
- \$33 million over two years to ensure greater safety of natural health products.
- \$25 million over two years to provide Canadians with better information on the links between pollution and illness.
- New tax compliance and enforcement measures to reduce the availability of contraband tobacco products.
- The broadening of the Medical Expense Tax Credit.
- A Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax (GST/HST) exemption to help individuals cope with disabilities or disorders, such as autism, and an expanded list of GST/HST-free medical and assistive devices.

## Investing in Aboriginal Communities With:

- \$70 million over two years for measures to foster Aboriginal economic development.
- \$70 million over two years to improve First Nations education outcomes.
- \$147 million over two years to stabilize current First Nations and Inuit health programs and promote closer integration with provincial systems for better health outcomes.
- \$43 million over two years for prevention-based models of child and family services on reserve.
- \$330 million over two years to improve access to safe drinking water for First Nations.

## Investing in a New North With:

- An increase in the Northern Residents Deduction to attract skilled workers to northern Canada.
- \$34 million over two years for geo-mapping of natural resources.
- A one-year extension of the Mineral Exploration Tax Credit.

## Investing in a Cleaner, Healthier Environment With:

- \$66 million over two years to establish the regulatory framework for industrial air emissions.
- \$250 million for research and demonstration of carbon capture and storage.
- Expanded tax incentives for clean energy generation.
- An increase to the capital cost allowance rate for carbon dioxide pipelines, a component of carbon capture and storage systems.
- \$300 million to support nuclear energy, including the development of the Advanced CANDU Reactor and maintaining the safe, reliable operations of the Chalk River Laboratories.
- \$21 million over two years to make environmental law enforcement more effective.

## Investing in Culture and Sports With:

- \$25 million to make the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Torch Relays a symbol of community and national pride.
- \$24 million over two years to enhance the Government's excellence programming for summer athletes.
- \$9 million over two years to capital infrastructure projects to support Canada's National Museums.

## Investing in Security With:

- \$400 million to encourage provinces and territories to recruit 2,500 new front-line police officers.
- \$122 million over two years to ensure the federal correctional system achieves better public safety results.
- \$32 million over two years to enhance the work of the Public Prosecution Service of Canada.
- \$30 million per year to the National Crime Prevention Strategy.
- Stable, predictable new funding to support the Canada First Defence Strategy with annual increases in defence spending of 2 per cent starting in 2011-12, providing an additional \$12 billion over 20 years.
- \$43 million over two years to the Communications Security Establishment to keep pace with rapid advancements in information and communications technologies.
- \$75 million over two years to ensure the Canada Border Services Agency has the resources it needs to effectively manage the border.
- \$14 million over two years to expand the joint Canada-U.S. NEXUS program for low-risk frequent travellers.
- \$6 million over two years to help provinces and territories introduce enhanced driver's licences in partnership with U.S. states.
- \$26 million over two years to facilitate the processing of visa applications and enhance border security through the use of biometric data.
- New electronic passports for Canadians, to be introduced in 2011, which will be valid for 10 years.
- \$29 million over the next two years to meet priorities under the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America.
- \$15 million over two years to establish a permanent facility to enhance the security of the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Seaway region.

## How Can I Get More Information on Budget 2008?

Information is available on the Internet at [www.fin.gc.ca](http://www.fin.gc.ca) or by phoning:

1-800-O-Canada (1-800-622-6232)  
1-800-926-9105  
(TTY for the speech and hearing impaired/deaf)

You can also obtain copies of this brochure and other budget documents from the:

Distribution Centre  
Department of Finance Canada  
Room P-135, West Tower  
300 Laurier Avenue West  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G5  
Phone: 613-995-2855  
Fax: 613-996-0518  
E-mail: [services-distribution@fin.gc.ca](mailto:services-distribution@fin.gc.ca)

*Ce document est également offert en français.*

